REMARKS

The Official Action of 23 January 2007 has been carefully considered and reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The indication that claims 25, 27 and 28 would be allowable, if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, has been noted with appreciation. Applicants have now amended claim 1 to incorporate the limitations from claim 25 (including the limitations from claim 24) such that claim 1 is now in allowable form in accordance with the Examiner's comments. All other claims presently of record depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 1.

In view of the indicated allowability of the subject matter now incorporated into claim 1, Applicants respectfully request rejoinder of the withdrawn method claims in accordance with the provisions of MPEP 821.04. The method claims depend from, and include all of the limitations of, the allowable product claim.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that all rejections and objections of record have been overcome and that the application is now in allowable form. An early notice of allowance is earnestly solicited and is believed to be fully warranted.

Respectfully submitted,

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